



German victory



Stylish rugs for the outdoors

'absurd'

Michelle denies rumours of feud with Heath's family
 >> celeb buzz p.26



point taken

Credit card companies, banks provide incentives
 >> loyalty rewards p.12



students split

Bluenosers flock to the Rock for cheaper tuition at MUN
 >> local p.3



Firefighters continue to refuse calls

Safety dispute enters second day as union calls for clarification

By ROBYN YOUNG
 Metro Halifax

For the second day in a row, a couple of dozen firefighters in HRM refused to respond to fires yesterday.

The firefighters, who work out of 14 stations outside the city core, are in a dispute with their employer about how many of them should be on a rig when attending a fire.

A recent decision by the provincial Occupational Health and Safety appeal panel states that four-person crews are required as an initial response to a fire.

Firefighter union president Paul Boyle said the union has a different interpretation of this mandate than Halifax Fire and Emergency Services.

They take it to mean that four members should be on a fire-bound truck. The employer says as

long as there are four firefighters at the scene, it doesn't matter how they arrived.

Sometimes, though, one rig with only two members will show up to a fire anywhere from five to 30 minutes before the second arrives.

"That happens all the time," said Boyle.

The two at the scene are left to sit and watch the building burn, even if there are people inside, until more firefighters arrive.

One firefighter Metro spoke to yesterday, who didn't want his name published, said if there were people inside he'd have no choice but to try to save them. He said he would later be reprimanded for his actions.

If he was injured, he believes he wouldn't be covered by the employer because he broke the rule.

The union met with the fire service and the Labour Department yesterday. It's hoping the appeal panel will offer a clarification by the end of the week so things can get back to normal.

—robyn.young@metronews.ca

crew numbers

>> In 2006, a firefighter refused to work because there were only three crew members at a fire.



Jim Stymiest of the Herring Cove Fire Department is one of a couple of dozen firefighters in HRM who are refusing to work if there aren't at least four firefighters on board the rig when attending a structure fire.

Five girls charged in stabbing

By JENNIFER TAPLIN
 Metro Halifax

Five girls have been charged in a stabbing incident in May.

Police found a 14-year-old girl stabbed in the chest near the former fish hatchery on the Bedford Highway on May 5.

"It was an arranged meeting between a couple of groups and it resulted in the

sending back and forth of some nasty text messages," said Const. Jeff Carr in an interview yesterday.

The victim and a 16-year-old girl walked into a prearranged meeting at police headquarters on Monday and were formerly charged. The victim is charged with possession of a weapon — a knife — and the 16-year-old girl was charged with assault with a weapon and possession of a weapon.

On Tuesday, a 14-year-old girl was also charged with possession of a weapon. A 16-year-old girl was charged with breaching a court order, and another girl, 17, will be arrested and charged with the same thing, since she is now living out of the province. Carr said the court order conditions stated these two girls weren't supposed to be around each other, but that night they were in the same group.

—jennifer.taplin@metronews.ca

locals

>> The girls are all from Bedford, Fairview and Clayton Park.

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local

About 10,000 Nova Scotia high school students will graduate this week. The province says 85 per cent of the students who were in Grade 9 three years ago are now donning caps and gowns.

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Undergrads running to MUN

Low tuition draws Nova Scotians to N.L. university

By LINDSAY JONES
Metro Halifax

Brandon Copeland is part of a growing number of students fleeing the province for much cheaper tuition at Memorial University of Newfoundland.

"You're getting just as a good education here as you would paying double the price back home," said the first-year political science student, who's from Wolfville.

"It's a no-brainer, right?"

The number of Bluesosers going to the Rock has jumped more than 800 per cent over the last seven years, according to the Maritime Provinces

huge jump

» The number of Nova Scotian undergraduates enrolled full-time at Memorial University of Newfoundland has risen to 864 in 2007-08 from 58 in 1997-98. That's an increase of 1,390 per cent.

Higher Education Commission's latest figures.

The numbers show 864 Nova Scotians attended MUN in 2007-08 — that's 19 per cent more than last year.

"The trend continues essentially," commission CEO Mireille Duguay said.

The biggest draw is cheaper tuition. Students pay \$2,550 at MUN. In Nova Sco-

tia, they pay more than double that — on average, \$5,878.

"As long as that gap is there, our students are more likely to go to Memorial," Duguay said.

Copeland says the price tag was the biggest factor for why he and two pals made the move.

The 18-year-old, who's spending the summer in St. John's washing dishes at a

restaurant, says he can pay tuition, live and eat in residence at MUN for less than the price of tuition alone at any Nova Scotia university.

The province recently decided to freeze tuition for all students over the next three years. Nova Scotia students who apply for student loans will get a bursary to offset tuition.

-lindsay.jones@metronews.ca

World junior bid gets boost from city council

Not all councillors in support of using hotel levy

By JENNIFER TAPLIN
Metro Halifax

If Halifax wins the rights to host the 2010 IIHF world junior championship, it will have a \$200,000 head start.

Fred MacGillivray, president of the World Trade and Convention Centre, said the money granted by HRM council on Tuesday isn't for the bid itself, but it will go toward hosting the championship if Halifax wins the bid. The winner will be announced in a couple weeks.

There were a few councilors who weren't enthused about granting the money — collected from a hotel room

levy — to a hockey tournament. Dartmouth Centre Coun. Gloria McCluskey was one of them.

"We have a blues festival coming up in Dartmouth and they won't give them one penny," said McCluskey yesterday, adding Dartmouth hotels contribute to the levy fund.

The 2009 world canoe championships will be asking for money, but she said it seems only Halifax events get funding.

Hockey is a good investment, MacGillivray said. The last time the juniors were hosted here in 2003 the event made an estimated

\$20 million.

"What they've got to recognize is the size with the hockey is much bigger than some of the other events they're comparing it to, and the return on the investment is much higher."

Dartmouth Centre Coun.
Gloria McCluskey

With volunteer groups and the event manager still fresh from the men's championship in May, MacGillivray said Halifax will be "ready to hit the road running" if they get the nod.

Halifax is competing against bids from Winnipeg and Brandon, as well as Saskatoon and Regina.

-jennifer.taplin@metronews.ca

« We have a blues festival coming up in Dartmouth and they won't give them one penny. »

Theodore Scrub the tug



Mount Saint Vincent University student Matt Haley washes Theodore Tugboat's nose yesterday during a cystic fibrosis fundraiser the university's student union held on the Halifax Waterfront.

Daily News founder plans to run for school board

By LINDSAY JONES
Metro Halifax

David Bentley, a journalist-entrepreneur who launched The Daily News, Frank magazine and allnovascotia.com, has decided to run for school board.

Bentley lives next door to Saint Mary's Elementary, which the school board put on the chopping block this year. Its fate will be in the hands of a new school board, to be elected this October.

If elected, Bentley said he plans to introduce a board policy to allow parents at schools affected by a possible closure to vote for or against it.

"It's important that the parents be convinced because really that's the heart and soul of the education system — those schools, those parents, students and teachers," he said.

The board says Saint Mary's Elementary is too small to provide full programming and meet the needs of population projections.

Bentley doesn't agree. "If we continue on this bent, we'll sort of Wal-Martize education systems so that we'll package students up in larger and larger schools, which become increasingly impersonal and I don't think that's the way the world should be going," he said.

Nomination day is Sept. 9.

Chocolate Lake Grad celebration



Walter Mitchell, left, and his friend Steven Johnson play in Chocolate Lake yesterday afternoon after their Grade 6 graduation. Dozens of people packed the small beach in the afternoon as the temperature rose to around 25 C.

Shooting suspects at large

A 37-year-old man ended up in hospital Tuesday night after he was shot in the arm by four suspects in what police say was a drug-related incident.

The four men forced their way into an apartment at 30 Joseph Young St. around 11 p.m., a struggle ensued with someone in the unit and a shot was fired.

The suspects fled the

scene on foot.

A friend took the gunshot victim to Dartmouth General Hospital and his injuries were not life-threatening.

Halifax Regional Police say the victim is providing limited co-operation in the investigation.

Police continue to search for the suspects.

METRO HALIFAX



What Canadian celebrity would you invite to your Canada Day party? Nineteen per cent of Canadians would pick actor/comedian Mike Myers, left, according to a Harris/Decima poll sponsored by Dole Sparklers. Other dream guests are Wayne Gretzky (17 per cent), Celine Dion (15 per cent) and Shania Twain (13 per cent).

METRO HALIFAX

More to park than just trees

Plans explained for Point Pleasant

By JENNIFER TAPLIN
Metro Halifax

It's not just the trees that will be brought back to life in Point Pleasant Park.

HRM staff hosted a public meeting last night to explain their plan for restoring the park after hurricane Juan smashed through five years ago.

About 70,000 trees have been replanted so far, but municipal planners are looking at more than the trees.

Peter Bigelow, on the HRM staff, said there are strong First Nations assets in the park, as well as signs of early European settlements that were covered before Juan,



Charles Lane takes a closer look at a map of Point Pleasant Park. Lane and many other HRM residents attended a public meeting last night to examine plans for the park.

and, of course, the military fortifications.

"Some of them are in dismal condition and need to be stabilized, but people want access to them so you have to provide access without fur-

ther deteriorating them."

Plus, they want to build good washrooms, provide facilities for food vendors, and a place where children on day trips can wait for a bus.

"If we improve those serv-

ices, more people will come and spend more time there."

Brian Mombourquette said he just wants to make sure the spirit of Point Pleasant remains.

"Largely, I'd like to see it re-

stored to what it was. I'm not interested in seeing a sports field. We have lots of room for that already in the city, but we don't have very many natural woodlands."

Bigelow said there's no fear of that.

"It's going to be a natural park," he said.

Charles Lane walked in feeling disgruntled with how the park was managed, but he changed his mind after looking at the plans.

"There's been a very detailed, comprehensive study done," he said. "It's going to look good."

It will take 60 to 80 years for the trees to be fully restored, but a there's a shorter timeline of 10 years for the building and restoration of park assets.

-jennifer.taplin@metronews.ca

offenders

Youth spending less time in court

DATA Young offenders are now spending less time in court. It now takes an average of 89 days to get from their first appearance to sentence or acquittal. It used to take 134 days in 2004 and 2005.

Commissioner Merlin Nunn recommended cutting the time to 98 days in his 2006 report. New data released yesterday shows the province has exceeded that goal.

"Not only will this keep our communities safer, but research shows that youth offenders have a better understanding of how their behaviour leads to serious consequences if those consequences happen as soon after the offence as possible," said Justice Minister Cecil Clark.

PAUL MCLEOD/METRO HALIFAX

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One of these sets of batteries will power your television remote. The other will destroy it and make you cry. But which is which? (actually, the right one is fake.)

Meeting gets real about fake goods

Counterfeiting not a victimless crime, expert says

By PAUL MCLEOD
Metro Halifax

Bob Barchiesi has a saying: "If you can make it, they can

fake it."

That was apparent yesterday as more than 400 people from 50 countries gathered for an international intellectual property crime conference in Halifax.

On display were everything from fake handbags to fake circuit breakers — and many of them were indistinguishable from the real thing.

"If you knew where your money was going, you'd probably think twice about (buying counterfeit goods)," said Barchiesi, president of the International Anti-Counterfeiting Coalition.

"The people that are engaged in the sale of counterfeit goods are often engaged in other nefarious criminal conduct. It's been linked to organized crime, it's been linked to funding terrorist organizations. It's not victimless."

The conference was a forum for police from around the world to share tactics for

stopping counterfeiting. It's a daunting problem. The industry is worth about \$500 billion worldwide each year, says Barchiesi.

In the last decade, fakes have dramatically improved their image so they look authentic. But on the inside there are often flaws — such as batteries without the proper vents, so they explode.

"Reputable companies have quality assurance. They do certain testing, and counterfeiters aren't doing that. They're there to make money," said Nada El-Defrawy of Consumer Product Safety Bureau with Health Canada.

"We're finding in counterfeit shampoo there was some bacterial contamination. Or counterfeit toys fall apart really easily. So you have small components that could be a choking habit for kids. It could be coated with lead."

— paul.mcleod@metronews.ca

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learning to spot counterfeits

Fake goods can look almost identical to what they're ripping off. Here are some tips to tell if what you're buying is counterfeit:

» The price is the biggest giveaway. If something is new and yet half the price of what you'd expect, it's probably too good to be true.

» Spelling mistakes on packaging are a common way to spot a fake. Many counterfeit product packages contain broken English or typos like "Made In

Cfnada."

» Check for low-tech packaging such as Saran Wrap.

» Be extra vigilant on the Internet. Sites like Kijiji or Craigslist don't give the buyer much opportunity to examine what they're buying beforehand.

» China is the largest producer of counterfeit goods. If a product claims to be from North America but has Chinese lettering somewhere on it, the product is likely a counterfeit.

»news In Brief

» **LEGAL** A Berwick man has to pay the pie men \$25,000 in restitution. Ray Stanley McKenzie, 37, pleaded guilty in Kentville provincial court Wednesday, May 21, to defrauding Sarsfield Foods of more than \$5,000. McKenzie was an employee of the company at the time of the offence. Judge Claudine MacDonald suspended sentencing on McKenzie for the fraud and imposed a term of two years' reporting probation on him. She also ordered him to pay \$25,000 in restitution to the company within 18 months.

» **HOUSING** Trenton Mayor Shannon MacInnis says he will be the first to purchase a home in a new subdivision about to be built in the town. Last week, developer Jim Pitt announced plans to build the largest

subdivision in Pictou County. It will feature 175 to 200 lots and will be located off Park Street, across from Trenton Park. "I am so confident this is a good idea I'll be the first to buy a home," says MacInnis.

» **FISHERIES** With some forecasting a catastrophic outcome, local fisheries representatives from southwestern Nova Scotia have approached the provincial government, asking it to carry out a study on the impact of rising fuel costs on the fishing industry. Part of the thought process is that if the industry has to turn to government, DFO or others for help in coping with escalating fuel costs, it will need documentation showing the extent of the problem.

METRO HALIFAX

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canada



Statistics Canada reported yesterday, that three in 10 Canadian households consumed bottled water as their primary drinking source in 2006. People in high-income homes were more likely to drink bottled water than people in low-income homes.

SOURCE: CBC NEWS ONLINE

Terror case continues

Khawaja labelled courier by witness

In the murky Al Qaeda underworld, Canadian Momin Khawaja was a courier, a bomb maker and a steady source of cash, court was told yesterday.

E-mails and an eyewitness account showed that the accused 29-year-old terrorist was prepared to do whatever he could to support the jihadist movement based in Pakistan, including handing over thousands of dollars and recommending a suicide attack on Israel, the Crown's star witness, Mohammed Junaid

Babar testified.

Justice Douglas Rutherford of Ontario Superior Court heard that Khawaja carried on e-mail conversations about bomb making in

deal

» Babar struck a deal with U.S. federal officials for a reduced sentence.

2003, delivered items to Al Qaeda in Pakistan and provided a home for the "brothers" to stay in Rawalpindi. Khawaja is being tried by Rutherford without a jury.

Khawaja has pleaded not guilty to seven offences, including helping to develop the bomb detonators, possession of explosives, helping to finance terrorist activity and receiving terrorist training.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Protest Harper's cabinet shuffle



A protestor argues with an RCMP officer before a swearing-in ceremony at Rideau Hall in Ottawa yesterday. The sign refers to David Emerson who is the new foreign affairs minister after Prime Minister Stephen Harper shuffled his cabinet yesterday to accommodate for Maxime Bernier's recent resignation. Senator Michael Fortier moves from public works to the international trade portfolio that Emerson leaves.

PATRICK DOYER/REUTERS

Bernier breaks public silence

With his first public statement in over a month, Maxime Bernier yesterday denied his ex-girlfriend Julie Couillard ever told him about her past and criminal associations.



Bernier

Bernier, who resigned as foreign affairs minister in late May after learning he had left classified documents at Couillard's home, said the papers were briefing notes prepared for a NATO summit in early April.

He said he did not notice they were missing because their contents were not sensitive enough to warrant having a bar code attached, which would have allowed their location to be monitored.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

»news In Brief

» **BERNARDO** Anthony Hanemaayer's acquittal yesterday for a 1987 sex attack committed by Paul Bernardo exposed what his lawyers call a multitude of problems plaguing Canada's justice system, including the use of dangerous eyewitness

evidence. Hanemaayer's lawyers hope his wrongful conviction and the 20 years he spent paying for Bernardo's crime will translate into compensation for their client and a police investigation into whether the serial killer committed other offences.

» **BLACK** A U.S. federal appeals court yesterday upheld the conviction of former press baron Conrad Black and three ex-colleagues found guilty last year of defrauding shareholders of Hollinger International Inc.

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world



Actors Brad Pitt, left, and Angelina Jolie have donated \$1 million for educational aid to children impacted by the Iraq war in that country and in the United States, a charitable organization said yesterday.

REUTERS

6 dead in Kentucky shootings

Worker argued with boss before rampage: Police

A worker at a plastics plant in Kentucky shot and killed five people inside the factory yesterday and wounded a sixth before killing himself,

police said.

Local media reports said the violence was triggered by a dispute the 25-year-old man had with a supervisor, who was among the dead.

The police department in Henderson, Ky., said the man who did the shooting entered the Atlantis Plastics plant in



random victims

» One local media report said most of the victims appeared to have been shot at random and were scattered around the plant.

Henderson and began firing a handgun. He was not immediately identified.

The shooter, who died of a

self-inflicted wound, and one of his victims were pronounced dead inside the plant.

Four others were pronounced dead after being taken to hospitals and a sixth victim was in stable condition at a hospital in Evansville, Ind., police said.

Atlantis, which has a number of U.S. plants, produces molded plastics at the Henderson facility.

REUTERS

Don't mix sports and politics: IOC

China rapped after party boss' speech

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) told China yesterday to stop mixing sport and politics after a speech by Tibet's Communist Party boss at the end of last weekend's Beijing torch relay leg in Lhasa.

"The IOC regrets that political statements were made during the closing ceremony of the Torch Relay in Tibet," the IOC said in a brief statement.

"We have written to

Paralympic torch

» China, whose Beijing Olympic torch relay was dogged by protest overseas, yesterday cancelled the international leg of the Paralympic torch relay.

BOCOG (Beijing Games organizers) to remind them of the need to separate sport and politics and to ask for their support in making sure that such situations do not arise again."

REUTERS

Argentina Activists protest use of fur



Activists clad in underwear with red body paint protest against the use of fur in Buenos Aires, Argentina, yesterday.

MARCOS BRINDICCI/REUTERS

Africa

Zimbabwe vote a 'sham,' Bush says

ELECTION President George W. Bush yesterday called



Bush

run-off elections to be held in Zimbabwe tomorrow a 'sham' and accused

President Robert Mugabe's government of intimidation.

Zimbabwe's neighbors have urged postponement of the elections, saying that re-election of Mugabe could lack legitimacy in the current violent climate.

animals

Spain looks to give apes rights

LEGISLATURE Spain's parliament voiced its support yesterday for the rights of great apes to life and freedom in what will apparently be the first time any national legislature has called for such rights for non-humans.

REUTERS



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Tip of the Day: The wisest mind has something yet to learn. — George Santayana

»news In Brief

MILITANTS Saudi Arabia has detained 520 suspected al Qaeda-linked militants since January, accusing some of them of planning car bomb attacks against an oil installation in the kingdom, the Interior Ministry said yesterday.

WEATHER A new round of storms dumped a half foot or more of rain across parts of the U.S. Midwest yesterday, dealing fresh trouble to a region already struggling with billions of dollars in flood damage.

REUTERS

Employment & recruitment.

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The U.S. Federal Reserve held interest rates steady yesterday, signalling it was in no hurry to raise them. The decision by the U.S. central bank left the benchmark overnight fed funds rate at 2 per cent.

REUTERS

N.S. companies least optimistic in country

Industry report says costs led to confidence tumble

By JENNIFER TAPLIN
Metro News

Nova Scotia's businesses are the most pessimistic in the country, according to an industry report.

A barometer of confidence among small and mid-sized companies conducted by the Canadian Federation of Independent Business found our businesses the least optimistic in the country.

In a statement released yesterday, the association said fuel, energy and labour costs led to a 'tumble' in

confidence in June.

Leanne Hachey, CFIB spokeswoman, said Nova Scotia is at the bottom because other provinces have provided tax relief to help out businesses.

"And that, in addition to all of these cost spikes is taking its toll on businesses, families and communities."

-jennifer.taplin@metronews.ca

THE DAILY BUSINESS BUZZ

Caterpillar rumoured to be reconsidering Halifax:

Industry sources have suggested that Caterpillar Inc. is planning to move its shipping through the Port of Halifax again. The heavy-equipment manufacturer moved its business to Norfolk, Va. in March, taking an estimated 25,000 containers of import and export business out of the city. The company left Halifax over concerns about CN rail service to Chicago, which was inconsistent through the winter. Transit time to Chicago is shorter from Halifax than from

Norfolk, giving HRM an edge. Industry representatives are tight-lipped about the subject.

Franny's Feet keep a walkin'

DHX Media Ltd. has announced a third season commission for the hit preschool series Franny's Feet from Family Channel, an Astral Media network. This order for 26 eleven minute episodes brings the total of episodes ordered to 104 eleven minute episodes (or 52 half hours), and will see the new season air on Astral Media's Playhouse Disney and Family channels.

Construction trades stretched:

Major engineering and industrial construction projects in New Brunswick and Newfoundland and Labrador will stretch Atlantic

Canada's workforce to the limit, according to the Construction Sector Council's fourth annual edition of Construction Looking Forward. Ongoing construction activity will keep Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island busy, but replacing an older than average construction workforce means that Atlantic Canada will need more than 5,000 new trades people to meet demands for new construction. Also, 13,600 workers are needed to replace retiring baby boomers between now and 2016.

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Paris Sale on style



A woman walks yesterday by a shop with signs announcing summer sales in Paris. Shops in certain regions of France have started their summer sales, which last for six weeks.

»news

In Brief

» **VOTE** Biovail shareholders overwhelmingly rejected a dissident slate of directors proposed by founder Eugene Melnyk. **REUTERS**



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smartphones

RIM set to roll out new products

DEVICES Research In Motion Ltd. Co-CEO Jim Balsillie said that the BlackBerry maker will roll out a "flurry" of new products through the second half of the year.

The pricing of some devices could be lowered, as RIM prepares to go head-to-head with rivals such as Apple Inc. over the next six months. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

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Thursday, June 26, 2008

Rewarding loyal customers

Credit card firms, banks offer many different incentives

Let's say you were walking through a store and you came across a pair of shoes you really wanted, but it was expensive enough for you to say, "Well, I don't really need them." But what if buying those shoes earned you points towards something bigger in the future, such as movie passes or plane tickets? All of a sudden, that price tag may not seem so high.

That's basically how loyalty and reward programs work:

In exchange for shopping exclusively with a retailer or by paying a certain way, customers are in turn rewarded with points they can turn in for luxury items. And Canadians have been participating in them for years — Canadian Tire has been doling out their own dollars and cents since 1958.

Loyalty programs boost profits and provide research for big businesses — and each of them have different rewards initiatives based on

the type of customer they're trying to attract. Metro asked major banks and credit card companies across the country to present some of their most successful rewards programs. Here's what we came up with from the ones that responded to our queries, and you can compare them:

SCOTIABANK: It has a few, but its most dynamic is their Scene program, according to John Doig, senior vice-president of marketing,

sales and service. It's a joint venture with Cineplex targeted at movie-goers and has gained more than

810,000 members in 12 months. Customers get an immediate 10 per cent off on movie concessions and earn points through buying tickets at Cineplex theatres. Rewards include free movie admissions.

CIBC: This bank boasts its Aerogold Visa card — one of the country's biggest — as its most valuable rewards initiative. On average, 2,000 Aerogold members fly for free every day, says Ernie Johansson, senior vice-president of marketing for CIBC retail markets. Cardholders earn one mile for every dollar spent, redeemable for flights and other reward items. Other features include guaranteed hotel reservations, insurance coverage and discounted car rentals. The bank recently launched a program where customers get 1.5 miles per dollar if they shop at gas, grocery or drug stores.

RBC: One-stop shopping is the name of the game with RBC's Visa Avion program. Customers earn points through use of the card and can then redeem points for travel with any airline, merchandise, gift cards (among them Future Shop, Golf Town and Starbucks) and can even contribute to RRSPs, RESPs or mortgage and loan payments. The program also lets the more altruistic consumer make donations to charities.

BMO: This bank has gone beyond the use of points with credit cards and expanded into debit card use. Its customers can now collect Air Miles by paying with their BMO debit card. BMO media rep Ralph Marranca says a major reason for this was that last year, the number of debit transactions in Canada surpassed the number of credit card transactions for the first time. One of their biggest credit card programs, Marranca notes, is the revamped BMO Mosaic Gold MasterCard, where customers can get a 20 per cent



Many banks and credit card companies offer travel rewards as part of their loyalty programs.

discount on Air Miles redemptions, among other benefits.

TD: The bank's TD Visa Infinite Card touts variety as its major selling point, offering cardholders "book any way" flexibility, travel insurance and services. You can apply your points — three TD points for every \$1 you spend on the card — towards deals or promotions with the travel agency, hotel or airline of their choice.

AMEX: This credit card company's AeroplanPlus

program offers one travel rewards mile for every dollar spent on the card (Gold members get 1.25 miles per dollar after they've purchased \$10,000 with the card within a year). In addition, AMEX offers a Blue Sky credit card, where members pay no annual fees and can redeem their rewards for any airline, hotel, cruise or car rental. Cardholders get 1.25 Blue Sky Points for every \$1 of purchases on the card, and free redeemable travel starts at 10,000 points.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Accessibility key aspect of successful programs

Must be able to exchange points for rewards quickly

Initiatives to get your exclusive business are a dime a dozen: Everywhere you look, companies and retailers offer you bonus miles, points, exclusive deals and club memberships. But businesses know that a customer's wants evolve and so must their programs to keep you interested in investing your time and money with them. Here's a look at what the experts call some of the latest trends in loyalty and rewards, and what the successful ones should have.

Reward programs, retail or otherwise, do huge business in Canada, so much so that setting up shop in this country without one is next to unthinkable. The Hudson's Bay Com-



Younger collectors of rewards points are more likely to trade them in for technology and short trips, experts say.

pany, for example, offers its HBC Rewards program through all its outlets: The Bay, Zellers and Home Outfitters. It also offers its program through Esso gas stations.

Kelly Hlavinka, managing partner of Colloquy, a Cincinnati, Ohio-based loyalty marketing researcher, says 9

out of 10 Canadians participate in some manner of rewards program (as opposed to 5 out of 10 in the U.S.).

"Canadian customers are clearly looking for more value when they spend their money," she says. "More consumers are expecting loyalty and reward programs from the

companies with which they do business."

Accessibility is of key importance, says Neil Everett, senior vice-president and chief marketing officer of Air Miles. For a loyalty program to succeed, customers must be able to exchange their points for rewards fairly quickly after signing up, and there has to be a wide range of redeemable items for different consumers. Boomers, for example, are trading in for flights and cruises, families exchange for amusement park passes, and younger collectors (under 30) are choosing technology and short trips.

"It's starting with identifying your customer and the kind of loyalty you're trying to create, and tied to that is your business objective," said Everett. "You have to create the right incentive and aspirations and

make it attainable."

Hlavinka forecasts a bright future for reward programs. More of them will be geared towards women (otherwise known as the primary financial decision-maker in consumer data collecting circles) and technological items such as mobile phones will be more in demand. Experience rewards such as trips will continue to be among the most popular, resulting in a wider range of travel packages being offered.

Soothsaying aside, she notes that a good rewards program, at its heart, should be an accurate reflection of how its customers spend their money.

"It's really a direct result of what customers are engaging in, and the different items they're redeeming their points for," she says.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Beware of Big Brother?

Firms not likely to mine your details, privacy expert says

By **BRIAN TOWIE**
for Metro Halifax



GETTY IMAGES FILE PHOTO
What happens with your personal information when you scan your loyalty and rewards card at the grocery store?

You know the drill: You head to the checkout with your shopping basket and give the salesperson your loyalty and rewards card. They scan it, you pay, and you're that much closer to your reward.

Understand, however, that these types of programs are often two-way streets, and there's a price for the extra benefits you can get: While you're racking up bonus miles and points, retailers are keeping track in their own way by recording your purchasing information — and are privy to data that can tell them when and where you've shopped, how much you've spent, and even the items you've bought.

"They (businesses) can take a look at your transactions and see that you may have a lot of money for discretionary spending and then market to you accordingly," says Michael Janigan, executive director and general counsel with the Public Interest Advocacy Centre in Ottawa. "Or they might look and see that you pay by Visa for amounts as low as \$7 — you may be accessible to advertisements for payday loans. There's a whole wealth of information that can be mined in that circumstance. What is marketed to the customer as an incentive to shop

at a store is actually something quite different."

You can get a fair idea of what businesses are looking at by the kind of junk mail you get, but would it be possible for a marketer, if they were interested in finding out, to electronically rifle through your shopping basket to find out what kind of condoms you're buying? In some programs, yes. While federal privacy laws under PIPEDA (Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act) dictate businesses require your consent to collect or even disclose such information, contracts with these types of programs are entirely one-sided, says Janigan.

But big business retailers and service companies are often too busy to care about the fine details of your spending habits, says David Fraser, a privacy lawyer with Halifax-based firm McInnes Cooper — noting in-house loyalty programs (a store that sets up and runs its own, for example) are more likely to mine specific information for inventory purposes than those offered across several stores.

A 2002 investigation by the federal Privacy Commissioner

found that Air Miles — Canada's largest rewards program at 9.8 million members and counting — collects only basic data from the transaction: The date, store address and name, dollar value, number of miles earned and occasionally the category of purchase and the type of Air Miles card carried.

With the wide popularity of loyalty programs (more than eight million people have Shoppers Drug Mart's Optimum card, for instance), Fraser adds businesses have too much to lose by scrutinizing your personal spending habits. The last thing they want is for you to opt out of their initiative.

"Not everybody is concerned about privacy, but in Canada enough are that it just doesn't make business sense to alienate those people," says Fraser. "They (merchants) get some value from disclosing that information to marketing companies, but the value that they get is not overridden by the damage to the relationship with the customer if they did it without their OK."

» For a list of privacy rights resources online, read this article online at metronews.ca.

Many ways to maximize your points

By **RAFAEL BRUSILOV**
for Metro Halifax

Saving up your reward points for free flights and TVs is an admirable goal, but what if you don't have enough points for the big stuff? Fear not — there are many ways to stretch your reward spending.

The first thing to do is make sure your reward card is giving you the best reward returns on your purchases. Spending a few bucks on annual fees might be worth it to give you the best collection rate for points.

For example, Aeroplan gives users up to double or triple the amount of points, depending on what level of program-approved credit card you use for purchases,

while BMO offers a similar reward structure with a Bronze Mosaic Air Miles card.

The next thing to do is realize you don't have to save up thousands of miles just to get some use out of your points. Air Miles customers, for instance, can trade points for gift cards, grocery cards and gas cards. Even as few as 25 Air Miles can get you a movie pass.

Perry Schwartz, senior manager of public relations for Air Miles, says the reward system is designed to let people choose rewards they can use on a daily basis.

"It's built around everyday spending. If people just do what they're doing every day, they can hit that 25 miles reward rather quickly," Schwartz said.

BMO also offers Air Miles rewards using your debit card from a savings account, and most rewards programs give regular promotions such as seasonal discounts of flights booked using reward miles. Retail stores frequently run bonus reward miles promotions too, so keep an eye out for chances to rack up a few extra points with your grocery or drugstore purchase.

While several websites allow you to consolidate your reward points from different sources, be aware that most of them take a heavy cut of your points in the exchange, sometimes as much as 50 per cent. Do your research, pick the reward point program that is right for you and stick with it to maximize the spending power of your points.

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sports



The Tampa Bay Lightning and forward Vincent Lecavalier, left, have reportedly agreed to a nine-year deal. *TSN.ca* reports that the star centre agreed to an extension that will pay him \$77 million US. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Germany pulls one out

Lahm's late goal helps favourites advance to final

EURO2008

Germany beat Turkey 3-2 in another Euro 2008 thriller yesterday to line up a final on Sunday against either Russia or Spain and end their opponents' roller-coaster ride through the tournament.

Turkey, who saved themselves with late goals in three previous matches, appeared to have repeated the feat when Semih Senturk equalized to make it 2-2 in the 86th minute and seemingly force extra time.

But Germany, who had been second best for most of the match against a side ravaged by suspensions and injury, took a page from Turkey's book and came back themselves in the final minute of normal time to snatch victory at St Jakob Park in Basel, Switzerland.

Defender Philipp Lahm, who had failed to stop the



Germany's Philipp Lahm, centre, celebrates after scoring in the 90th minute against Turkey during semifinal action yesterday at Euro 2008 in Basel, Switzerland. Lahm's goal proved to be the winner that sent Germany into Sunday's championship final.

cross that led to Turkey's equalizer, emerged as the match-winner after playing a one-two with Thomas Hitzlsperger and lashing the ball high into the net past goalkeeper Rustu Recber.

"It was one of most beautiful moments in my life, get-

ting into the final," Lahm said. "That's always beautiful. We missed that at the (2006) World Cup. Today it worked out. We want to win the title," he said.

Turkey coach Fatih Terim congratulated Germany and added: "I am proud of my

players and think their will to play well, and the technical support, all came together and they were able to show the world what a good team they were.

"I think we are leaving as the most colourful team of the tournament." REUTERS

Djokovic turfed at All England Club

Safin cruises to big win over Serb

A dazed Novak Djokovic was jettisoned from Wimbledon yesterday and his fellow Serb Ana Ivanovic was lucky not to suffer the same fate on a day of high drama at the All England Club.

Third seed Djokovic became the biggest name to tumble out of the grasscourt championships when he was dumped in the second round by Marat Safin.

The Russian broke down Djokovic's weak resistance for a 6-4, 7-6, 6-2 victory on a surface he claims to hate.

Nathalie Dechy could have completed a bad day for the Serbs when she came within a whisker of knocking out world No. 1 Ivanovic in a nerve-jangling contest.

But a lucky netcord, at match point down in the second set, allowed Ivanovic to stage a great escape and she shrieked in delight after completing a pulsating 6-7,



Third-seeded Novak Djokovic shows his frustration during his match against Marat Safin yesterday at Wimbledon.

7-6, 10-8 win.

"I couldn't believe it, I was so lucky," Ivanovic said after surviving the three hour, 24 minute thriller.

Back on the men's side, Roger Federer's pursuit of a sixth consecutive title gathered momentum when he ousted Sweden's Robin Soderling 6-3, 6-4, 7-6 with the minimum of fuss, while Canada's Frank Dancevic lost 4-6, 7-6, 6-4, 6-4 to American Bobby Reynolds. REUTERS

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YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
INTERLEAGUE
 Boston 5 Arizona 0
 Cincinnati 6 Toronto 5 (10 ins)
 Kansas City 4 Colorado 2
 N.Y. Yankees 10 Pittsburgh 0
 N.Y. Mets 8 Seattle 2
 San Francisco 4 Cleveland 1
 Tampa Bay 15 Florida 3
 Texas 3 Houston 2
 Washington 5 L.A. Angels 4
 St. Louis at Detroit
 Baltimore at Chicago Cubs
 Minnesota at San Diego
 Philadelphia at Oakland
 Chicago Sox at L.A. Dodgers
NATIONAL LEAGUE
 Atlanta 4 Milwaukee 2
TODAY'S GAMES
INTERLEAGUE
 Tampa Bay at Florida, 1:10

St. Louis at Detroit, 2:05
 Baltimore at Chicago Cubs, 3:20
 Chicago Sox at L.A. Dodgers, 4:10
 Minnesota at San Diego, 4:35
 Philadelphia at Oakland, 4:35
 N.Y. Yankees at Pittsburgh, 8:05
 San Francisco at Cleveland, 8:05
 Cincinnati at Toronto, 8:07
 Texas at Houston, 9:05

AL BATTING LEADERS
 Name, team AB R H AVG
 Bradley Tex 221 47 73 .330
 Mauer Min 249 46 81 .325
 Rodriguez NYY 213 40 69 .324
 Matsui NYY 251 37 81 .323
 Damon NYY 282 45 91 .323
NL BATTING LEADERS
 Name, team AB R H AVG
 Jones Atl 253 48 100 .395
 Berkman Hou 274 68 98 .358
 Pujols StL 222 41 77 .347
 Holliday Col 244 40 81 .332
 Martin LAD 261 38 82 .314

CFL

TONIGHT'S GAMES
 Montreal at Hamilton, 8
 B.C. at Calgary, 11
TOMORROW'S GAME
 Toronto at Winnipeg, 9
SATURDAY'S GAME
 Edmonton at Saskatchewan, 8:30

EURO 2008
SEMIFINALS
YESTERDAY'S RESULT
 Germany 3 Turkey 2
TODAY'S GAME
 Russia vs. Spain, 3:45
CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL
SUNDAY
 Germany vs. Russia/Spain winner, 3:45
LOTTERIES
 Lotto 6/49 1, 23, 29, 34, 37
 & 45. Bonus 8.
 Results not official

»sports In Brief

» **NBA** The Toronto Raptors have reportedly agreed in principle to acquire star forward Jermaine O'Neal from the Indiana Pacers. Media reports say the Pacers will get guard T.J. Ford, centre Rasha Nesterovic, an unnamed player, and Toronto's 17th pick in tonight's NBA Draft.

exchange for a fifth-round selection in the 2009 draft. McGrattan, 26, recorded three assists in 38 games with the Sens last season.

» **NHL** The Vancouver Canucks claimed forward Kyle Wellwood off waivers from the Toronto Maple Leafs yesterday. Toronto had waived the forward, along with goaltender Andrew Raycroft, on Tuesday.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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 4DR, SSP, CD, 1 Owner
NOW \$12,990

2003 Hyundai Santa
 Power Group, Aut
NOW \$1

2004 Element was \$17,999
 2DR, Auto Transmission,
 Power Group, A/C, Alloys
NOW \$16,990

2004 Toyota 4Runner was \$24,990
 Power Group, A/C,
 Cruise Control, 4X4
NOW \$23,990

2006 Saturn Ion was \$14,990
 2DR Coupe, SSP, A/C, 39,000km
NOW \$13,990

2004 Impala was \$12,990
 4DR, Power Group, Auto Transmission,
 A/C, 1 Owner
NOW \$11,990

2007 Pontiac Grand
 Power Group, Auto
 A/C, Cruise C
NOW \$1

Andrew White, right, and Justin Pender of the Halifax Mooseheads will represent Canada at the world under-20 ball hockey championship starting today at Mile One Stadium in St. John's, N.L.

METRO HALIFAX



'I'm a Rainman at heart'

Crookshank sad to leave Halifax

By **MATTHEW WUEST**
Metro Halifax

Halifax Rainmen all-star Eric Crookshank made his decision to sign in Finland with his head, not his heart.

The 6-foot-8 forward left the Rainmen on Monday to ink a one-year contract with a team named Componenta in Karkkila — a city with a population of less than 10,000.

"I'm excited, but it's with mixed emotions," Crookshank said. "I want to be in Halifax. I want to be in Halifax playing basketball. I started something there with the Rainmen and I want to finish it. I'm kind of happy, but I'm kind of sad."

Crookshank made a commitment to Componenta before the Rainmen announced they were joining the Premier Basketball League, but said he has no regrets.

The 28-year-old signed with

Componenta primarily for financial reasons. He called it a "comfortable contract," and said the team pays for his car, a place to stay, food and family visits. There is also bonus money for individual and team success.

« I started something there with the Rainmen and I want to finish it. »

Eric Crookshank

"It's going to be tough in a whole other country, but someone's gotta feed my family," said Crookshank, who was one of 12 players crammed into the Rainmen's \$120,000 salary cap. "I'm worried about my finances as of right now."

Crookshank currently lives alone, but financially supports his 24-year-old sister, who lives in Atlanta.

"We lost our mother five years ago and ever since I've been a parent to my sister," Crookshank said. "When my

mother passed, my sister didn't know what to do with herself. I've got to make sure she's OK. That's what I'm doing this for."

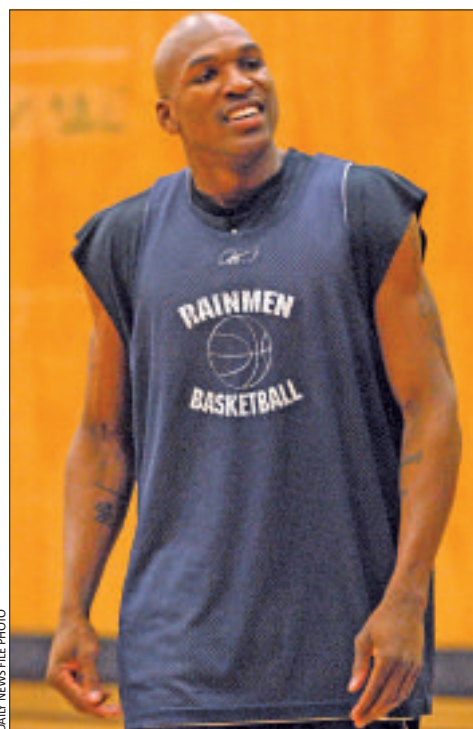
The Oakland, Calif., native also believes he is making the right move for his basketball career. The Korisliiga is the top pro basketball league in Finland, and he said Componenta wants him to be the "face of the organization."

"I've got to go over there and prove myself," he said. "I'm very confident. I don't really care who I'm playing against — I feel I'm a force to be reckoned with wherever I play."

Crookshank, who averaged a double-double with the Rainmen last season, didn't rule out a return to Halifax some day.

"I would love to be back there on a basketball court there ... I would love to be," he said. "I'm a Rainman at heart. As long as my fans understand, I'm happy with my decision."

—matthew.wuest@metronews.ca



DAILY NEWS FILE PHOTO

Eric Crookshank, who signed to play next season in Finland, says he would welcome a chance to return to Halifax someday.

Grant gets shot at WJC spot

Antigonish's Alex Grant has been invited to Hockey Canada's world junior team development camp.

The Saint John Sea Dogs captain and Pittsburgh Penguins draft choice is coming off a stellar season in which he produced 15 goals and 33 assists for 48 points in 70 games.



Hockey Canada invited 45 players to the camp, which will run from July 25 to 29 in Ottawa. It's the first of two camps that are used to determine Canada's 22-man world junior team. The second is in December, just before the WJC.

Ten returnees from last year's gold-medal winning entry are among this summer's camp participants.

Grant will compete with 15 other defencemen, including returnees Drew Doughty, Luke Schenn and P.K. Subban.

The 19-year-old former No. 1 overall pick in the QMJHL draft has represented Canada before, helping it finish fourth at the 2007 world under-18 championship and win gold at the 2006 Ivan Hlinka Memorial under-18 tournament.

Four Nova Scotians have competed at the world junior: Bedford's Paul Boutilier, Cole Harbour's Sidney Crosby, Halifax's Stephen Dixon and Hammonds Plains' Brad Marchand.

—METRO HALIFAX

St. Pierre among local grads to crack CFL rosters

Huskies alum will be in Eskimos starting lineup

By **MATTHEW WUEST**
Metro Halifax

Saint Mary's Huskies graduate Tim St. Pierre has cracked the Edmonton Eskimos' opening-day roster.

The 22-year-old from Hamilton, Ont., is scheduled to be available to the Eskimos when they open the CFL season on Saturday on the road against

the defending Grey Cup champion Saskatchewan Roughriders.

He is one of 11 graduates from the Atlantic Universities Football Conference currently on a CFL roster.

"It's outstanding for him," Huskies head coach Steve Sumarah said. "He's a hard-working guy, and when he came to us, this was his goal, right from the beginning. We knew if he got an opportunity, he would grasp it and run with it."

In his fourth season at Saint Mary's,

St. Pierre had 33 solo tackles in seven games and was named the conference's most valuable defensive player and a first-team all-Canadian.



St. Pierre

That helped the 6-foot, 235-pounder get selected in the third round (19th overall) by Edmonton in April's CFL draft.

Fellow Huskies grad Dave Stala is back for a fifth year with the Montreal Alouettes as starting slotback, while Marc Beswick is on the practice roster with the Winnipeg Blue Bombers.

Halifax o-lineman Steve Morley, another Saint Mary's grad, is currently on Saskatchewan's injured list.

Former St. Francis Xavier X-Men defensive back Richard Karikari and Acadia Axemen offensive lineman Godfrey Ellis are on the Calgary Stampeders' active roster.

Acadia's Adam Rogers and St. FX's Jonathan Hood are on Edmonton's practice roster, while the Stampeders are carrying former X-Men Sean Manning on their practice roster and Derek Armstrong on their injured list.

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Buying a home can be a long and complex process. For first-time, or even repeat buyers, purchasing a condominium is usually just as lengthy and complex an experience. When you buy a condo, you're not just buying a place to live. You're becoming part of a community.

Before you make an offer on your dream condo, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) recommends that you get some expert advice to help you navigate through the process. To help walk you through your purchase, CMHC has identified many industry professionals who are available to provide you with information. They are the following:

» **REAL ESTATE AGENT:** A real estate agent who specializes in condominiums can save you time, energy and help you make an offer once you've found the condo that's right for you. While you can deal with the vendor's realtor, it may be wiser to enlist an agent who will act solely on your behalf. Make sure you're clear about who's paying their commission and what your obligations will be once you've signed any agreement. Be specific about the type, features, location and price range you're looking for in a condo. This will allow your agent to pre-screen properties that are within your budget, in the



Before you make an offer on your dream condo get some expert advice to help you navigate through the process.

neighbourhoods where you want to live and with the features and amenities that are important to you.

» **REAL ESTATE LAWYER:** A lawyer who is knowledgeable about condominiums can protect your legal interests, explain all the documentation and review the purchase and sale agreements. Your lawyer will determine whether or not there are any legal actions pending against the condominium. If your offer is accepted, he or she will also be responsible for many of the closing arrangements.

» **HOME INSPECTOR:** A qualified home inspector can determine whether

there are any construction-related defects in your condo that could put a significant dent in your pocket-book. All too often, people make purchase decisions too

quickly in anticipation of competing offers. This can leave you vulnerable to substantial additional repair and renovation costs that a pre-

purchase inspection might have detected.

» **FINANCIAL INSTITUTION:** Your bank manager or financial adviser can help customize your mortgage to suit your financial goals and needs, and ensure you can afford your monthly mortgage payments. CMHC's online interactive guide

Homebuying Step-by-Step, available at www.cmhc.ca, can help you determine what price range you should be looking at and how much you can really afford.

» **TO AVOID ANY** unpleasant surprises, you should also investigate the financial well-being of the condominium corporation you'll be buying into. For resale condominiums, check documents such as the estoppel or status certificate as well as annual operating budgets and end-of-year financial statements. Technical audits and reserve fund studies can also offer insight on the condition of the building and the adequacy of the reserve fund to meet future major repairs and building renewal work. For new buildings, also review the full disclosure statement.

CMHC

more info

» For more information or a free copy of the Condominium Buyers' Guide or other fact sheets on owning, maintaining or renovating your home, call CMHC at 1-800-668-2642 or visit the website at www.cmhc.ca.

Ikea offers more bed options

This month, Ikea will be changing its entire range of quilts and pillows, as well as introducing a whole new range of advanced foam and latex mattresses in addition to the existing range of spring mattresses.

Ikea has worked in close collaboration with doctors and researchers to identify

exactly how people sleep and what qualities will give them the ultimate in comfort, resulting in a whole new way of looking at sleep comfort.

"The health benefits associated with a good night's sleep are undeniable and the key to a good night's sleep is comfort," says Madeleine Löwenborg-Frick, public re-

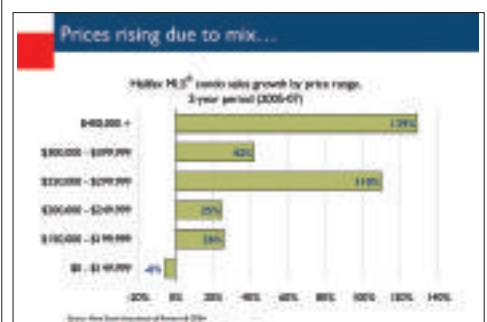
lations manager, Ikea Canada.

"Over the last three years, Ikea has made a large investment in mattresses, more than doubling the range, ensuring that we offer our customers a quality range of mattresses to suit their individual sleep preferences."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Ikea pillows: Gosa Syren standard pillow, \$13.99, Mjuk ergonomically-shaped pillow, \$24.99 and standard pillow for back sleeper, \$39.99.



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Managing your mess

Professional organizers help with your clutter

By **LINDSEY KEILTY**
for Metro Halifax

Clutter, clutter, toil and trouble — this is an all-too-familiar cycle that many homeowners struggle with. Big homes and busy lives compound into a sometimes unmanageable mess. That's where Jane Veldhoven comes in.

As a professional organizer with her own company — Get Organized! Professional Services — Veldhoven knows what it takes to get any disaster cleaned up. Her career isn't just about organizing closets, though. Organizers assess and fix any aspect of your life — your home, your office, your filing, even your clogged e-mail inbox.

In 2001, Veldhoven happened upon a website advertising professional organizers and she quickly realized it



LINDSEY KEILTY/FOR METRO HALIFAX

Professional organizer Jane Veldhoven arranges a bookshelf. Veldhoven recommends you spend 15 to 30 minutes every day picking items up and putting them away once you've organized your home.

was an ideal career path for her.

"Interestingly enough, people either come from the same side as I do, where they're naturally an organized person and they really enjoy organizing and they want to teach other people to be that way, or

some organizers come from the other side, where they were very disorganized and it affected their life in a bad way, so they took the steps to become organized and they now share that information with other people," she explains.

"We've learned through

studies within the business that 25 per cent of people naturally have organized brains — they can take a mess and turn it into organization. The other 75 per cent of people would stand there and go, 'Uh, oh.'"

Whether your house is just messy or your whole life seems to be a complete disaster, Veldhoven says there is a common thread — time.

This time of year is especially stressful in many households, Veldhoven points out.

"Paper is a huge issue in people's houses, especially if they've got children — they've got bills and statements, and then especially at this time of year when kids are bringing everything home from school, there's paper everywhere," she says. "I've seen people just leave the binders and papers until the end of August, and then there's a big panic when it's time to go again in September. It's a better time of year to do that now, rather than letting it loom all summer."

tips from a professional organizer

» Professional organizer Jane Veldhoven has some tips to help even the most disorganized and mismanaged.

» The most important part of an organizing project is to determine a goal. Why do I want to get organized?

» Remember that having an organized home is more about the way it functions than the way it looks.

"Don't be deceived by what you see on TV," she says. "It's normally not possible for people to keep it looking like that; organizing is more about making the space work than all the pretty labels."

» There is no such thing as being perfectly organized. "That's what stresses a lot of people out; it can't be perfect. We find a lot in our business, that if I come in and transform a space like that for you, I'm still going to have to come in afterward and help you learn how to maintain it because what you're trying to do is break a lot of habits you've had for a long time."

» The key to organizing is having a home for everything and being able to find things when you need them.

» Start with something small. "If I'm going to reorganize an entire kitchen, I'm not going to expect to do it all at once. I think that's where a lot of people get frustrated and quit, because they start something huge that they can't finish. Start with one cupboard and when it's finished and clean and perfectly organized, you'll have something to show for your efforts."

» When editing down your possessions, focus on what you use right now and what you really love.

» Don't shop for containers or shelving until you have finished sorting and purging, and have decided where you will store everything. "We all want to do this because it's the most fun, but the trouble is, you bring the containers home and you go to put the stuff in it and it doesn't fit and then the container doesn't fit where you intended it to go either. It's important to measure the space as well."

» Set up 15 to 30 minutes EVERY day to pick up and put away — if your systems are successful, this should be quick and easy.

—LINDSEY KEILTY/FOR METRO HALIFAX

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Halifax and surrounding areas

'Condos are different beasts'

Know what you are getting into before you buy

By **PAUL MCLEOD**
Metro Halifax

Imagine moving into your new condo and going to your first condo meeting, only to discover the roof is leaking and you're getting billed \$2,000.

It won't matter that you just moved in. Once you own a condominium, you have to share in the expenses. That's why it's so important to know exactly what you're getting into before you buy.

"Condos are different beasts. You've got to be really careful," said Dave Kerr, broker at the Dartmouth office of Royal LePage Atlantic.

The first thing to check is the estoppel certificate, says Kerr.

Condo owners pay monthly fees into a reserve fund to pay for things like repairs. The estoppel certificate will tell you if your condo is financially secure with a healthy reserve fund that can handle predicted expenses.

If it's not and something



Even if you just move in and your roof is leaking in your condo, you will have to share in the expenses.

new comes up, you get a share of the bill based on the square footage you own. And there's no way out of it.

"When that comes along, it's not something you can say, 'Yeah I'll pay that when I get around to it.' You're expected to pony up right now,

or they can foreclose on you," said Kerr.

Kerr says the most important thing is to get a good realtor and lawyer who are used to dealing with condominiums to guide you through the process.

—Paul.Mcleod@metronews.ca

« When that comes along, it's not something you can say, 'Yeah I'll pay that when I get around to it.' You're expected to pony up right now, or they can foreclose on you. »

Broker Dave Kerr

Weatherproof rugs complete outdoor decor

Plastic rugs by Pappalina, clockwise from top, Vera, Viggo and Alve styles. See www.pappalina.com.



Cosmopolitan Outdoor Rug, 7x9 feet, \$129.99, Canadian Tire.

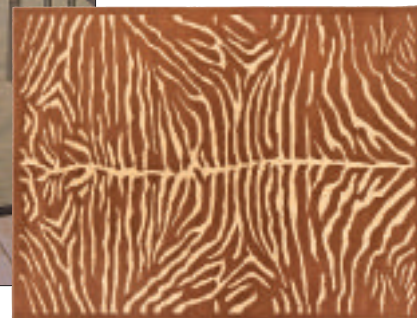
New plastic and synthetic options add to cozy factor

Creating so-called outdoor rooms has undeniably been one of the hottest trends in gardening over the past few years. We've seen the advent of massive kitchen-style setups with sink and prep areas; outdoor furniture that's as glamorous and stylish (and expensive) as anything you'd choose to have

inside your home; and even chic new weatherproof lighting that includes chandeliers and table lamps.

Now, a wave of new rugs are available to tie your outdoor look together. Most are made of polypropylene, and many claim to be washable and comfortable as well. From deck to dock, they're an outdoor accessory you'll soon be encountering everywhere you turn.

METRO NEWS SERVICE



Zebra Synthetic Rug, Pottery Barn, available in 2.6x4.6 feet, \$149; 5.3x7.6 feet, \$249; and 7.1x11.2 feet, \$399. The smallest size is available at Pottery Barn's location at 100 Bloor St.; the other sizes are ship-to-store items.



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HGTV

homefashion

Making a splash with swim space

If you think a backyard pool means a rectangular or kidney-shaped pool with a blue liner, think again. Pools these days can be so much more. The design team is thrilled to see some exciting new trends emerging in this area.

Pools were often thought of as purely recreational space for swimming, floating, splashing, playing volleyball, performing cannonballs, and the like. They still are, but they can also be designed to look like natural pools so they fit seamlessly into the environment. They can be designed as a spa, with water jets, seating and temperature controls. They can be lap pools for cardiovascular fitness, and so much more.

Concrete in-ground pools remain expensive, starting around \$50,000 for a small pool, (less for other types of liners) but we are finding



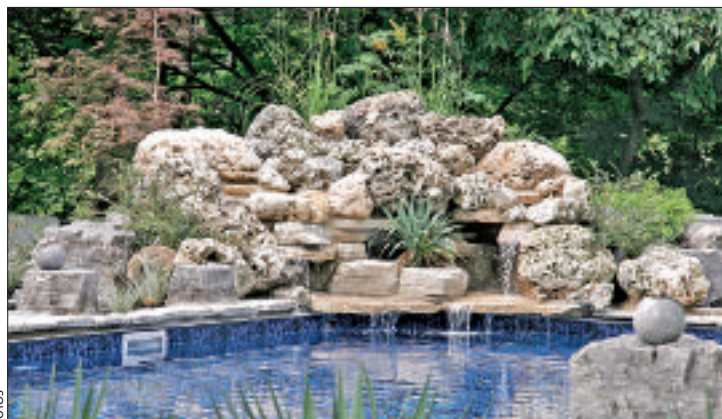
ARRESTING DESIGN
JEFFREY FISHER &
TAMMY SCHNURR
busted@arrestingdesign.com

that people seem to be more willing to spend their recreational dollars at home. After all, the regular drive to the cottage or the gas-guzzling flight to a tropical location will likely become more painful as the price of gas goes up.

And to tell the truth, nobody needs to feel as if they're getting less. We've seen some gorgeous trends in pools — ones that will make the backyard an absolute pleasure to enjoy privately and with many appreciative visitors. These days, there are many ways

to create magical places. You won't ever want to leave your home!

One of the newest trends is a "negative edge" or infinity edge pool, with one edge that looks as if it is absent. In reality, the water flows over this edge into a basin, where it is re-circulated back into the pool. The look is stunning in the right environment — such as looking out over a body of water or out from a high place with a vista. Another emerging look is "perimeter overflow" in which the water surface is flush with the decking or stonework surrounding the pool, flowing down invisibly into small basins at the pool's edge. It looks as if a large reflective mirror has been artfully placed in your backyard and is absolutely stunning. Fountains and waterfalls over stones add drama, set into a natural environment, as if the pool



TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE PHOTOS

were put there by Mother Nature herself. Or you can opt for a contemporary look — say, a concrete support that sends water cascading into the pool in a perfectly smooth sheet of water. Either way, a water feature like this not only looks beautiful, the trickling or splashing sound provides a soothing background noise that masks urban noises.

Lighting can also add a special touch — from floating solar lights that feature shifting colours, to perimeter lighting, to underwater lighting to illuminate bubbling jets. Automated programmable music adds to the experience, from soothing spa sounds to a laid-back jazz evenings. Pools finished with mosaic or glass tile is hot look south



Waterfalls over stones adds a touch of drama to your backyard pool oasis.

of the border, expensive but undoubtedly lovely. Exposed stone is also a gorgeous natural look, and concrete embedded with pebbles and stones can look fetchingly natural as well. A black liner adds a delightful pond-like look.

Another emerging idea popular with families with children or elderly users is the sloped beach-like entrance, rather than steps or

a ladder to enter the water. A shallow "wet-deck" type of pool is great for little ones, but also great for adults who want to laze about on their loungers, half-submerged while they read and sip a cold one, or just nap. This sounds like a great backyard vacation to us!

Tammy Schnurr and Jeffrey Fisher are hosts of Arresting Design on W Network.



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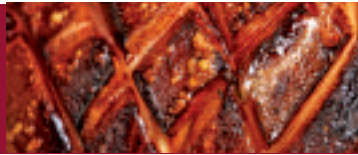


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food



To reduce charring the meat on the grill, remove skin from meat and trim off excess fat before seasoning.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Grill low and slow

Summer just isn't summer without ribs on the grill and the secret to succulent ribs is time. These ribs require very little effort, just patience. Allow two hours from start to finish, fortunately with only an occasional check. Turn your barbecue into an outdoor oven and let it do the cooking. Buy the meatier back ribs rather than side ribs or spareribs. Rub with seasonings, cook low and slow and brush with a smoky sauce near end of cooking.

Slow Cooked Smoky Back Ribs

Chipotles are both smoky and quite spicy, so adjust amount to your taste. Alternately brush ribs with your favourite smoky barbecue sauce. Serve with baked potatoes, corn and cold beer.

INGREDIENTS:

2 slabs of back ribs, about 3 lbs (1.5 kg) in total

Rib Rub:

1 tbsp (15 mL) each: Ground cumin and coriander
1-1/2 tsp (7 mL) each: Chili powder and brown sugar
1 tsp (5 mL) each: Salt, pepper and paprika
1/2 tsp (2 mL) cayenne



à la carte
BARB HOLLAND

Sauce:

7-oz (198 g) can chipotles in adobe sauce
1/4 cup (50 mL) brown sugar

METHOD: Remove the thin membrane from undersides of ribs and trim off any excess fat. Rub evenly with rub mixture. If time permits, let stand 20 minutes.

Cook ribs over indirect heat — after preheating barbecue, turn one burner off and reduce heat on other burner(s) to low. Place ribs on unlit side, close lid and cook for 1-1/4 to 1-1/2 hours, turning over and rearranging occasionally. Place an oven thermometer in barbecue to check temperature is about 300°F (150°C). Ribs are done when you can 'wiggle' the end of the rib bones and the meat is 'relaxed'.



Brushing meat with a flavourful blend of herbs and spices before cooking works like a dry marinade, providing great flavour and sealing in moisture.

Puree entire can of chipotles and adobe sauce in small food processor or blender. Measure out 1/4 cup (50 mL) and combine with brown sugar. Brush ribs with sauce mixture and cook another 10 to 15 minutes. Makes 4 to 6 servings.

Rib tips:

• Rain check — for an alternative cooking method, arrange ribs on a rack set in a shallow baking pan. Cook in 300°F (150°C) oven as above.

• Freeze remaining pureed chipotles in small amounts to use later in chili, for a mopping sauce to brush on grilled chicken or pork, or stirred into mayonnaise for a spicy, smoky dipping sauce.

• The Right Rib — Back ribs are from the blade and centre section of a pork loin and are meatier than side ribs (or spareribs). One rack weighs about 1-1/2 lbs (750 g). Plan on 3/4 to 1 lb (375 - 500 g) per person. Side ribs are cut from the belly or side and

the ribs are longer and less meaty than back ribs. Plan on 1 lb (500 g) per person.

Rub tips:

• Rubbing meat with a flavourful blend of herbs and spices before cooking works like a dry marinade, providing great flavour and sealing in moisture.

• Dry mixtures are a low fat way to add maximum flavour in minimal time and they work equally well on small or large pieces. While you can buy seasoning mixtures, it's easy to create your own blends and with much less salt, which tends to draw moisture out of meat. Make sure your herbs and spices are fresh for best flavour and feel free to be creative.

• As a guideline, use about 1 tbsp (15 mL) to season a pork chop, chicken leg or steak. Use about 2 to 3 tbsp (30 to 45 mL) to season a rack of ribs, whole chicken or a roast. For lean meats, such as skinless chicken, mist or lightly brush seasoned meat with vegetable oil before cooking.

Barb Holland is a professional home economist and food writer who believes in shopping locally and in season.

bbq like a pro



Grilling tips for best flavours

METHOD Barbecue grills are not noted for being non-stick, so here are a few tips to help prevent your food from becoming one with the grill.

» Each time you've finished barbecuing, burn off the remains. Let the gas grill run on high for 10 minutes (covered), then cool and scrape clean. This also prevents lingering flavours from going rancid and mid-night raccoon raids.

» Before you start up the barbecue, lightly brush cold grates with vegetable oil or use an oiled paper towel.

» Make sure grill is sufficiently hot, allow at least 10 minutes to preheat a gas barbecue; and 45 minutes for a charcoal grill or when the coals are covered in gray ash. Cook initially at high or medium-high heat to sear both sides of meat, then reduce to medium or low. Close lid to hold in heat.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Welcome to fudgy brownie heaven

Canadian entrepreneur, author and television personality Trish Magwood has won the prestigious James Beard Award — considered the "Oscars" of the culinary world — in the Entertaining category for her recent book of recipes and entertaining strategies, Dish Entertains.

Harper Collins Canada offered Metro this chewy, delicious recipe — guaranteed to satisfy chocolate-lovers — from the award-winning book:

Mocha Brownies

There are two camps when it comes to brownies — fudge brownies and cake brownies. If you fall into the fudge camp, you have found heaven with this recipe.



Once brownies have cooled, using a small round cookie cutter, cut into rounds and skewer onto popsicle sticks for brownie lollipops.

INGREDIENTS:

1 cup (250 mL) all-purpose flour
1 tbsp (15 mL) instant espresso powder
1/4 tsp (1 mL) salt

6 oz (175 g) bittersweet chocolate, chopped
2 oz (60 g) unsweetened chocolate, chopped
3/4 cup (175 mL) unsalted butter, cubed
1 1/2 cups (375 mL) sugar
2 1/2 tsp (12 mL) vanilla
4 large eggs
3/4 cup (175 mL) semi-sweet chocolate chips

METHOD: Preheat oven to 350°F (180°C). Butter a 13- x 9-inch (3 L) baking pan and line with parchment paper (or grease pan and dust with flour).

In a small bowl, combine flour, espresso powder and salt. Set aside.

In a medium heatproof bowl over a pot of barely simmering water, melt bit-

tersweet chocolate, unsweetened chocolate and butter together, stirring occasionally. (Make sure no water touches the chocolate.) Remove from heat and add sugar and vanilla; stir with a wooden spoon or spatula until smooth. Stir in eggs, one at a time, until incorporated. Fold in flour mixture. Stir in chocolate chips.

Spread in prepared pan and bake for 25 to 30 minutes, or until set but a few crumbs stick to tester when inserted. Let cool on a rack.

Dish Entertains by Trish Magwood is available at Amazon.ca with a current list price of \$28.32 for the hardcover edition.



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entertainment



Supermodel Iman, left, will be returning as host of Project Runway Canada. The new season makes its debut in January 2009. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Stadium DJ goes small

Tiesto aims to keep show fresh with venues

By DEAN LISK
Metro Halifax

He owes a lot to a certain Halifax-raised songstress.

When Tiësto's *Delirium* became the first house track to get day time radio play in North America, it was Sarah McLachlan's *Silence* he was remixing in the song.

"It was her voice, it is phenomenal, like another instrument," said the Dutch-born DJ, who was introduced to the song by a friend.

"It was my big break, and it has some real meaning to me. It was my first really big remix and it went No. 1 all over the world.

details

» **What:** Tiësto's In Search of Sunrise Summer Tour '08
» **Where:** The Cunard Centre
» **When:** Wednesday July 2, 8 p.m.
» **Tickets:** \$61.50 and \$89.75. Call 451-1221 or visit ticketatlantic.com.

Delirium is unlikely to be among the tunes the Grammy-nominee mixes at his Cunard Centre show on July 3. As part of his 35-date tour to support his new double release, *In Search of Sunrise 7*, the DJ is getting intimate with his audience.

"It's all, relatively speaking, small shows," said Tiësto, who is used to playing for stadium-sized crowds. This tour features him ap-

pearing in clubs and smaller venues.

"I wanted something new. I wanted to keep it fresh for myself," he said. "When you play a small venue, the really die hard fans know about it and go. So it means you play for them, and you don't have to play all the hit tunes from the past."

He said sometimes it can be difficult to judge what a crowd wants to listen to — harder music or more vocals — but it's something he's learned to do.

"Maybe it is because when I started I used to play everything, like hip hop and house and everything in-between and you really had to read the crowd to know what they wanted to hear."

He is still listening to what people want. Tiësto's



Tiësto is making his first trip to Halifax to play at the Cunard Centre next Wednesday.

originally thought melodic trance music was passé, but found on a recent tour of Asia that the crowd really liked it. The new album was inspired by that trip.

"CD one is really vocal driven and what the girls like, and CD two is almost rave-like and for bigger crowds, and a lot of guys like that more," he said.

» news

In Brief



» **NEW LABEL** Halifax's Joel Plaskett, above, now has his own record label. The award-winning musician recently launched New Scotland Records, which will soon be releasing a solo album of work by Joel Plaskett Emergency drummer and Super Friendz member Dave Marsh. The debut, called *The True Love Rules*, will be released on July 29.

» **WEBSITE** The Halifax Pop Explosion's new website is now up and running. The site already includes some information on one of this year's performers, Ron Sexsmith, along with information on how to volunteer and showcase application for performers. This year's festival will take place from Oct. 21 through 25. Visit halifaxpopexplosion.com.

» **SONGWRITERS** Bruce Guthrie, a member of the international group Runrig, will be hosting a songwriters' circle at Casino Nova Scotia on July 31. Tickets are \$36.50. Call 451-1221. METRO HALIFAX

Keith Urban

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Fourteen-year-old actress Taylor Momsen, right, who stars on *Gossip Girl*, has just signed to IMG Models, the agency has confirmed.

PEOPLE.COM



Free speech at heart of doc

Actor Stein explores volatile world of Intelligent Design

By RICK MCGINNIS
for Metro Halifax

Ben Stein admits that he's probably most famous for his deadpan cameo as a teacher in Ferris Bueller's Day Off, though at various times he has been a game show host, a speechwriter for Richard Nixon, and a columnist for Penthouse magazine. His career has had many different chapters, but the latest puts him in the middle of a controversy that most people probably thought had been laid to rest with the Scopes Monkey Trial.

As the narrator and protagonist of the documentary

Expelled, Stein goes on a journey through the universities, museums and scientific institutions of American and Britain, trying to figure out just why everyone there seems to be in a rage about Intelligent Design, a theory that suggests that some sort of built-in logic or intervention might be the best way to explain away questions that still bedevil the study of evolution. Jobs have been lost, reputations damaged or even destroyed, and battle lines drawn across almost every scientific discipline.

Stein insists that he was sure that he'd get answers from the Darwinian camp that would make ID look like the joke it's supposed to be. "Three years ago or whenever we started this, I thought I was going to come to a completely



Actor and TV personality Ben Stein jumps into the controversial world of Intelligent Design in his documentary *Expelled*.

different result than the one I came to," Stein says. "I thought I'd just go to (ID's proponents), and I'll say, look, this is an interesting idea but we now know that you guys are fruitcakes, and so we now know the answers. But we never

found the answers, and frankly their answers started to sound more and more plausible."

Ultimately, Stein says he remains less interested in scientific theories than freedom of speech, and the way that any debate about ID has been

crushed or dismissed outright – a spectacle that he's shocked to see happening in the U.S., though Canadians have had a front row seat on a similar suppression of speech with our Human Rights Tribunal cases.

"To tell you the truth, I don't have particularly strong feelings about ID. I have a strong feeling that Darwinism doesn't explain as much as people think it does, but I'm not worried about that one way or another, but I'm very worried about freedom of speech issues. I'm worried about them in the U.S. and, from what I've been told by close Canadian friends, I'm worried about them in Canada, too. I think Canada has some big free speech issues it's facing now."

music

Coldplay album debuts at No. 1



Martin

CHARTS
British rock band Coldplay's new album debuted at No. 1

on the U.S. pop music chart Tuesday, largely bucking the sales slides that have affected other musicians, the group's label said Tuesday.

Viva La Vida or Death and All His Friends, Coldplay's fourth release, sold more than 720,000 copies in the six days ended Sunday, Capitol Records said. **REUTERS**

» news

In Brief

» **MUSIC** Oasis has revealed its upcoming album will be called Dig Out Your Soul, BBC News Online reports.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



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Blake Lewis, left, may have come in second place on the sixth season of American Idol, but he won't be seeing a second release on Arista Records. The label "will not be picking up Blake's option" for any future recorded projects, a rep said.

EW.COM



ABOVE: The Ian Sherwood Trio played Stayners Wharf before heading out on tour to Ontario. Konrad Pluta, from left, Ian Sherwood, & Scott Ferguson.

Have a laugh

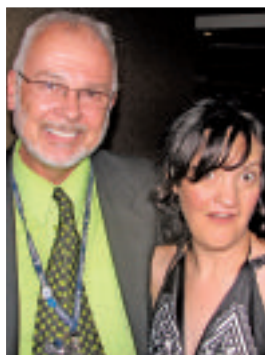


Howie Mandel with the beautiful, lovely, and talented Lisa Blackburn at Casino Nova Scotia.

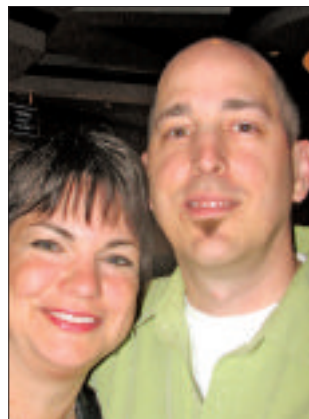


ABOVE: Monte's Show Bar co-owners Nancy Nazaryan, left, Aret Nazaryan, and Susan Nelson welcomed Dr Hook Sunday Night.

RIGHT: Casino Nova Scotia's Bill Soper with the very funny Nikki Payne at Laugh for Life.



LEFT: Ross Brittle and Sheila Bobbitt at Casino Nova Scotia for the Laugh for Life Kidney Foundation fundraiser.



ABOVE: Sharon and Mark Fraser spending an evening with Howie Mandel at Casino Nova Scotia.

Laughter is the best medicine and comic Nikki Payne has proven that laughs can triumph over adversity in the past year. The Sackville-raised standup has been on a roller coaster the past few years with her appearance on the American television program Last Comic Standing and successful tours across Canada.

It was during her time in Los Angeles that Payne learned her father needed a kidney and she was tested to see if she was a potential donor. After discovering she was a match, it was back to Halifax for surgery and six months of recovery time. That gave her plenty of time to come up with kidney jokes and the Kidney Foundation was the beneficiary last Wednesday during a fundraiser at Casino Nova Scotia. Payne was at her wacky best at the meal and silent auction hosted by C100's Peter Harrison. The charity gig was wedged in between appearances down the street at Yuk Yuks in the Westin.

The next few months will be busy for Payne who is writing a one-woman show about her experiences as an organ donor. Her special on CTV, "Nikki's Fun Time Show" will air in August.

Later in the week, the laughs continued with Howie Mandel



HALIFAX SCENE
JAMIE PATERSON

at the Casino for two stellar shows. Mandel and opening act John Mendoza were nothing short of brilliant. They managed to handle a rowdy audience and a police officer by the name of Donnie who had a laugh that can only be described as unique. After the late show, I made sure to greet the self-described germaphobe by knocking knuckles with him. Unfortunately his Deal or No Deal numbered suitcases (or models) were nowhere to be seen.

Last Friday, over 60 cyclists arrived in town after completing an amazing journey. It was the final leg of the inaugural National Kids Cancer Ride. These amazing athletes rode over 7600 kilometers and raised over 1.5-million dollars. All of the money goes to 17 pediatric cancer centres across Canada, so many children will benefit from their efforts. The gala to celebrate this accomplishment was held at Pier 21

with music provided by John Gracie, Meaghan Smith, Mike Redden and The Waterfront Band to name a few. Close friend of The Scene, Jeremy Webb hosted the evening.

Sunday, I took a stroll around the world ... on the Dartmouth waterfront! This year marked the 24th anniversary of the Nova Scotia Multicultural Festival presented by the Multicultural Association of Nova Scotia. The Festival is an opportunity to celebrate our province's cultural diversity through performances, workshops, food vendors and visual displays. I think of it as my annual opportunity to pig out on delicacies from around the world, which I did!

The weekend wrapped up with a swing by Monte's Showbar to catch Dr. Hook. It was enough to make me dig my eye patch out of the closet and join the boys on stage! Monte's has become one of the premiere venues in metro to catch classic rock acts. The booking staff has been hard at work securing 80's rockers Helix for Aug. 8 and The Headpins for Aug. 9. Don't it make ya feel like dancing? See you next week!



ABOVE: Andrew Ortile, clockwise from top left, Julius Mantolino, Denise Mercado, and Almira Ortile enjoying the weather at the Multicultural Festival.



ABOVE: "Are you 19?" Meghan Cooper and Iwona Tatarkiewicz on Beer Tent door duty at the Multicultural Festival.



ABOVE: Dr. Hook with Ray Sawyer, centre, performed Sunday night at Monte's Show Bar.

I'd love to make a deal to cover your event for The Scene. Just e-mail me at beatlejamie@eastlink.ca.

Tricia Helfer (Battlestar Galactica), right, is joining Fox's upcoming drama pilot *Inseparable*. The show is a modern-day Jekyll and Hyde tale about a partially paralyzed forensic psychiatrist (Lloyd Owen) with a split personality. Helfer plays a psychiatrist who evaluates suspects for the police.

EW.COM



Kanye doubles up at BET awards

Music superstar named top hip-hop artist

Rap star Kanye West picked up two prizes Tuesday at the BET Awards, an event honoring black recording artists, actors and athletes, while Alicia Keys was one of several stars who used the occasion to salute presidential contender Barack Obama.

The only other multiple winner was the hip-hop duo UGK, consisting of Bernard "Bun B" Freeman and the recently deceased Chad "Pimp C" Butler. In all 15 awards were handed out during a three-hour show mixing the heroes of contemporary hip-hop and old-school R&B.

Keys, flying high with a successful worldwide tour, a chart-topping album and an



MARIO ANGLON/REUTERS

Kanye West, right, accepts the award for best collaboration for *Good Life* with T-Pain, left, at the 2008 BET Awards in Los Angeles on Tuesday night.

upcoming film, shared the stage with three leading female ensemble acts from the 1990s — TLC, En Vogue and Sisters with Voices — for a medley of R&B music.

She went on to win the prize for best female R&B artist, and offered a heartfelt endorsement to Obama, who would be the first African-American elected to the na-

tion's highest office.

"Together we can do anything — Obama, y'all!" she enthused.

Teen sensation Chris Brown, who topped the U.S.

singles chart last year with *Kiss Kiss*, was named best male R&B performer.

The evening's most spine-tingling moment came when veteran soul crooner Al Green, recipient of a lifetime achievement award, got the audience in the Shrine Auditorium on its feet singing, and dancing, along with his classic 1970s hit *Let's Stay Together*.

West, whose third album, *Graduation*, was one of 2007's top-selling releases and spawned three Grammys, was named best male hip-hop artist and shared a second BET prize with R&B singer T-Pain for their collaboration on the hit single *Good Life*.

"This man, T-Pain, is a genius," West declared onstage of his co-winner.

REUTERS

movies

X-Files boss quietly works on new film

SECRET X-Files creator Chris Carter has been quietly directing the dark drama *Fencewalkers* in the Los Angeles area, according to *The Hollywood Reporter*.

Although his second X-Files feature doesn't even release until next month, THR reports that the director is underway on this next project, which reportedly stars Natalie Dormer (*The Tudors*).

EW.COM

»news

In Brief

» GAMESHows Cable channel GSN has hired actress Kim Coles (*Living Single*) and stand-up comedian Judy Gold to host the pilots for its revivals of *The Dating Game* and *The Newlywed Game*, respectively.

REUTERS

bribery

Fielder-Civil victim cleared by a jury



Fielder-Civil

WINEHOUSE

A pub landlord was cleared yesterday of taking a 200,000 pound (\$398,000) bribe to spare his attackers, one of whom was British soul singer Amy Winehouse's husband, from jail.

The jury at Snaresbrook Crown Court in east London found James King, 36, not guilty of perverting the course of justice.

Winehouse's husband Blake Fielder-Civil and Michael Brown both pleaded guilty to attacking King in London in June, 2006, and to trying to bribe him.

REUTERS



INTELLEVISION
RICK MCGINNIS
rick.mcginis@metronews.ca
Intellevision will return

	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
6/26/08	31	31	31	ABC	News (N)	ABC News	Inside	Chronicle	Ugly Betty	Grey's Anatomy	Hopkins	
	7	7	7	ASN	Twice in a Lifetime	Fortune	Jeopardy!	Ugly Betty	Grey's Anatomy	Collector		
	11	11	11	CBC	Coronatin	Who Do	Pod (DVS)	Left Coast (N)	National	The Hour		
	2	2	2	CBC-F	Providence (SC)	Des sque	Mosque	Perdus (HDTV) (SC)	France	Téléjournal		
	32	32	32	CBS	News (N)	CBS News	Insider	Entertain	How I Met	Rules	Swingtown	
	69	69	69	CTM	TVA 18h	Sucre-salé	Les Gags	Cendrillon aux grands pieds	Héros "Contre-coup"	TVA 22h		
	6	6	6	CHF	Entertain	ET	Swingtown (N)	Last Comic Standing (N)	You Can Dance	News (N)		
	9	9	9	CJCH	eTalk	Jeopardy!	Law Order: CI	CSI: Crime Scn	You Can Dance	News (N)		
	10	10	10	ELTV	(6) EastLink	Television		Podium TV	EastLink Television			
	36	36	36	FOX	Simpsons	King-Hill	Two Men	Two Men	You Smarter?	You Can Dance	Fox First	
news	12	12	12	NBC	News (N)	NBC News	News (N)	Our World	Last Comic Standing (N)	The Hour	Nature	
	29	29	29	NW	BBC News	Business	News (N)	Our World	The Hour	National	Nature	
	4	4	4	PBS-B	News-Lehrer	Flash	Business	BBC News	Old House	Hometime	Ask This	Pioneers
	68	68	68	TQS	Simpsons	Flash	Albert	Campings	Pouvoir d'exécuter (1997, Suspense) (SC)	Michigan	110 p c	
	23	96	96	BNN	Stars	Business News	Market	Legal	Smil Caps	Squeeze Play	Market	
	18	18	18	CNN	The Situation Room	Lou Dobbs Tonight	Market	Legal	Smil Caps	Squeeze Play	Market	
	54	54	54	GOLF	Post	PGA Tour Golf: Nationwide Tour	PGA Tour Golf: Buick Open -- First Round.	PGA Tour Golf: Buick Open -- First Round.	PGA Tour Golf: Buick Open -- First Round.	PGA Tour Golf: Buick Open -- First Round.	PGA Tour Golf: Buick Open -- First Round.	
	52	52	52	RSE	Prime Time Sports	MLB Baseball Cincinnati Reds at Toronto Blue Jays, (HDTV) (Live)	MLB Baseball Cincinnati Reds at Toronto Blue Jays, (HDTV) (Live)	MLB Baseball Cincinnati Reds at Toronto Blue Jays, (HDTV) (Live)	MLB Baseball Cincinnati Reds at Toronto Blue Jays, (HDTV) (Live)	MLB Baseball Cincinnati Reds at Toronto Blue Jays, (HDTV) (Live)	MLB Baseball Cincinnati Reds at Toronto Blue Jays, (HDTV) (Live)	
	55	55	55	SCOR	Hockey	Game On	2008 NBA Draft From New York.	2008 NBA Draft From New York.	2008 NBA Draft From New York.	2008 NBA Draft From New York.	2008 NBA Draft From New York.	
	45	45	45	SPD	Unique Whips	Off-Record	Sports	CFL Football Montreal Alouettes at Hamilton Tiger-Cats.	Pinks	Pass Time	Monster Jam (N)	Pinks -- All Out
sports	53	53	53	TSN	Off-Record	Sports	CFL Football Montreal Alouettes at Hamilton Tiger-Cats.	Pinks	Pass Time	Monster Jam (N)	Pinks -- All Out	Low Life
	43	43	43	FAM	Zoe 101	Life Derek	So Raven	Smart Guy	Suite Life	Sadie	Montana	Life Derek
	44	44	44	TOON	6teen	Johnny T	George	Scoboy	Scoboy	6teen	Total Dra	Futurama
	26	26	26	TREE	Fifi	Backyard	Ni Hao	Night Grdn	Wiggle	Franklin	Little Bear	Spider
	27	27	27	YTV	Drake	Malcolm	Prank Ptri	Prank Ptri	Fries	Franklin	Little Bear	Spider
	16	16	16	A&E	Cold Case Files	CSI: Miami	CSI: Miami	CSI: Miami	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	Crime 360
	70	70	70	APTN	First Talk	News	Raven Tis	Spirit	Canadian Geographic	Indian Cowboy	The Mix	
	50	50	50	BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10	Live	Blk Carpet	In Mind	Hip Hop II	Baby Boy (2001, Drama)	An Ideal Husband (1999)	
	37	37	37	BRVO	Street Legal	Spirit	In Mind	Between	Between	Between	Between	
	67	97	97	CLT	Help TV	The West Wing	Hard to Forget (1998, Mystery)	Beyond Chance	Reba	Hope	Home Imp.	
family	25	25	25	CMT	CMT's Ultimate	Comics!	Air Farce	22 Min	Laughs	Mercer	Simpsons	S. Park
	49	49	49	COM	Laughs	Comics!	Air Farce	22 Min	Laughs	Mercer	Simpsons	S. Park
	153	153	153	COURT	Truth, Duty, Valour	On Trial	SWAT	The Practice	Psychic	Cps uncut	Investi	
	38	38	38	DISC	How-Made	How-Made	Daily Planet	Real Superhumans-Quest	Future Fantastic	MythBust		
	34	48	48	HGTV	Holmes	Holmes	House	Buy Me	Disaster	Big Flip	Handyman	
	46	46	46	HST	Disasters	Mastmnd	NCIS	War Planes	War Planes	War Planes	NCIS	
	17	17	17	MMI	Punk'd	Untrue	Instant	Born to Be	Muchmusic Countdown	Cher: Farewell	Popagenda	
	19	19	19	MMM	Profile	mmmtop10.com	Back in	Cher: Farewell	Popagenda	The Hunting Party (2007)		
	201	201	201	MT	Van Wilder-Taj	(6:15) A Teacher's Crime	(2008)	Everest	Jet Set	Mark Williams	Dont	
	48	23	23	OLN	Don't Forget	R Wiese	Videos	Everest	Jet Set	Mark Williams	Dont	
cable variety	51	51	51	PEACH	Friends	Seinfeld	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	The Perfect Storm ***	(2000, Suspense)		
	206	206	206	PIX	(6:30) Giant **** (1996)	Actualité	400 fois	Grands reportages	Le Téléjournal (SC)	Actualité		
	67	67	67	RDI	en direct (SC)	ReGenesis	ReGenesis	ReGenesis	ReGenesis	ReGenesis	ReGenesis	
	39	39	39	SHOW	Trailer	Billable	Women	Debt Part	Rich-Poor Bride	Last 10	Brides	Big Loser
	40	40	40	SLICE	Three Takes	Relic Hunter	Stargate SG-1	Star Trek: Voyager	The Lost Room	TNA IMPACT! (N)		
	14	14	14	SPIKE	CSI: Crime Scn	CSI: Crime Scn	CSI: Crime Scn	CSI: Crime Scn	CSI: Crime Scn	CSI: Crime Scn	CSI: Crime Scn	
	57	98	98	STAR	At Movies	Star Treat	Look Like	Hollywood	TMZ	eTalk	Staying Young	Tonight
	21	21	21	TLC	What Not to Wear	Rides (HDTV)	Overhaul'n (N)	American Chopper	Miami Ink			
	56	34	34	TROP	Tube	Vanity	Inside Hollywood	ET	What	Fam. Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld
	20	20	20	TVS	Champion	J'nal FR2	Toute une histoire	Envoyé spécial	May-Dec.	Keep Up	The Innocents (1961, Horror)	
cable variety	28	28	28	W	Emily of New Moon	Shopping	House	Will-Grace	Friends	Divine	House	Wasted
	22	22	22	WGN	My Wife	Jim	Two Men	Fam. Guy	Smallville	Supernatural	News	

critics' corner

The Lost Room

Norman Bates' place ain't got nothin' on the Sunshine Motel, especially Room 10. This three-part miniseries stars Julianna Margulies as a woman who teams up with a detective (Peter Krause) to investigate after her brother is killed for his motel room key. The room turns out to be full of objects with scary supernatural powers, objects that certain people will stop at nothing to get their hands on. Elle Fanning — Dakota's little sis — also stars. 10 PM on SPACE



CFL Football

The 2008 CFL season gets under way tonight at Hamilton's Ivor Wynne Stadium, where Anthony Calvillo and the Montreal Alouettes hope to erase the memories of a disappointing 2007 campaign against Casey Printers and the league doormat Tiger-Cats. Part of that, undoubtedly, will be getting a full season from veteran quarterback Calvillo, who took a leave of absence late last season to care for his ailing wife. 8 PM on TSN

An Ideal Husband

Tangled web, anyone? Jeremy Northam stars as Sir Robert Chiltern, whose life with wife Gertrude (Cate Blanchett) is great. But when a former acquaintance (Julianne Moore) arrives with blackmail on her mind, his wife and his womanizing friend (Rupert Everett) are the only ones who can defuse the situation. Minnie Driver and John Wood also star in this 1999 comedy. 10 PM on BRAVO

Hopkins

Can't decide between "ER" and the reality series du jour? As a wise old beer commercial once said, why not have it all? This six-part miniseries, a follow-up to 2000's "Hopkins 24/7," takes you inside Baltimore's fabled Johns Hopkins Hospital — where the real-life drama never stops. Shot over a period of more than four months, it profiles patients in crisis and the medical staff treating them; pressure-cooker moments abound. 11 PM on ABC

Celebrity Buzz

ALL PHOTOS
GETTY IMAGESDark Knight
snub 'absurd'

Family affair: Michelle Williams has dismissed reports she is snubbing the premiere of Batman Begins sequel The Dark Knight because of a bust-up with her late boyfriend Heath Ledger's parents, *femalefirst.co.uk* reports.

Reports suggest Williams wouldn't attend the screening of Ledger's last complete film, because she is angry with Ledger's father Kim's handling of the actor's estate.

But her representative Mara Buxbaum insists the claim is "absurd."

She tells *People.com*, "The presumption that Michelle ever intended to attend The Dark Knight premiere is unfounded, but to say she is 'boycotting' due to a rift with Heath's family is absurd.

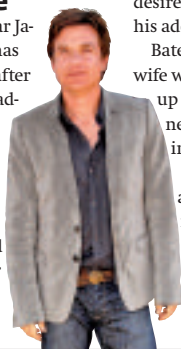
"It is time to allow this family to go about their lives without this continued scrutiny and speculation."

Ledger's parents and sister will jet to New York from their home in Australia to attend the premiere on July 14 — six months after Ledger took a fatal overdose of prescription drugs at his Manhattan home.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Bateman bans
the booze

PEOPLE Juno star Jason Bateman has gone teetotal after his wife persuaded him to give up alcohol, *imdb.com* reports. The 39-year-old star hasn't had a drink in four years and puts his newfound



clean living down to a desire to grow up and leave his adolescence behind.

Bateman also credits his wife with helping him give up booze — because she never liked him drinking.

He says, "I've spent all my fun chips and now I've parked my drinking boots in the closet. I haven't had a drink in four years."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Theron too lazy
to be a diva

CELEBRITY Charlize Theron says she is too "lazy" to ever be a diva, *femalefirst.co.uk* reports. The Oscar-winning actress insists she hasn't let fame go to her head and she is far too laid back to make outrageous demands. She said: "You know what, I'm lazy and to be a diva



takes a lot of energy and so that's why I don't do it because I just don't have the energy. It's a lot of work to be a diva. People forget. It's hard to yell at people and it's really hard to hit them. If I had more energy I would do it. I hit my publicist this morning. Apparently that doesn't go over too well!"

METRO
NEWS SERVICESSpears earns
overnight rights

CHILDREN Britney Spears has been awarded overnight privileges with her sons, *People.com* reports. The pop star hasn't had her children overnight since January following her forced hospitalization at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center. A closed-door hearing was attended by Spears and her ex, Kevin Federline. "I think any judge is pleased to see progress being made by parties in a case," L.A. Superior Court spokesman Allan Parachini said.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

goodbye

No more partying,
Osbourne says

PEOPLE Don't expect to see photos of Kelly Osbourne out and about, *Ananova.com* reports. The singer and TV star says her partying days are behind her. Chatting to *Closer* magazine, Kelly said: "The social scene has finished for me. I'm not falling out of clubs every night like lots of celebs my age — I wouldn't be a functional human being if I was. I was going out a lot, I was drinking a lot

and it wasn't attractive."

METRO NEWS
SERVICES

Celebrity brief

RELATIONSHIP John Mayer might have broken Minka Kelly's heart when he left her for Jennifer Aniston — but he had the decency to call her before the news about them hit the press, *PageSix.com* reports.

A pal of Kelly's said, "Minka received a call from

John (and) He apologized (saying), 'Sorry, but I'm really in love.'"

METRO
NEWS
SERVICES

Celebrity brief

PEOPLE Actor Rhys Ifans is reportedly returning to his hometown roots to get over his former fiancée Sienna Miller, *imdb.com* reports. He is said to be "inconsolable" since he split from the British beauty — who allegedly dumped the star due to his possessive ways. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**



Celebrity brief

BABY Tori Spelling has confessed her new baby daughter Stella wasn't planned — the tot was a happy accident, *imdb.com* reports. The former Beverly Hills, 90210 star welcomed the new arrival, her second child, earlier this month. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Diaz dating
Aniston's ex?

RUMOURS Actress Cameron Diaz has further fuelled speculation she is in a new relationship with Jennifer Aniston's ex, model Paul Sculfor — after she was snapped smooching with him while out on a walk, *imdb.com* re-



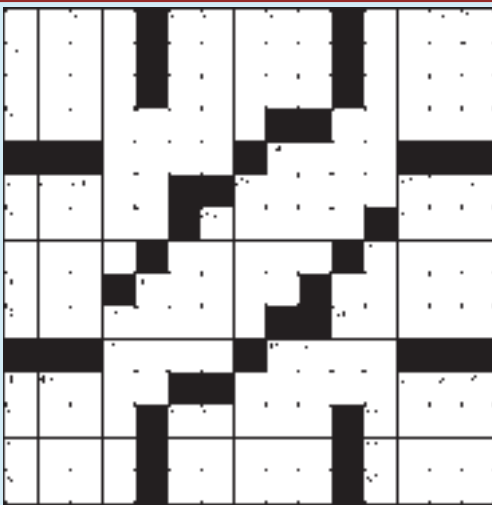
ports. Earlier this month, Diaz was linked to Sculfor after they were spotted dining together at Santa Monica's Il Ristorante di Giorgio Baldi in California. And now, the seemingly loved-up pair were seen enjoying a passionate embrace while taking a stroll on a beach in Los Angeles recently. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**



Celebrity brief

MONEY Reese Witherspoon is Hollywood's highest paid actress, according to a new study. The Legally Blonde star pulls in an estimated \$15 to \$20 million US per film, putting her at the top of the new Hollywood Reporter rich list, ahead of Cameron Diaz and Nicole Kidman, *People.com* reports. Renee Zellweger, Halle Berry and Julia Roberts also make the new trade Top 10. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**





down»

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 Become conscious | 31 Jugs |
| 2 Mr. Trebek | 32 Renter's document |
| 3 Dance move | 34 Hayseeds |
| 4 Throwing a party for | 37 Traffic stopper |
| 5 Veered | 38 Said again |
| 6 Form of oxygen | 40 Triangle sides |
| 7 UN's Waldheim | 41 House timber |
| 8 Pause fillers | 43 Capacity for recall |
| 9 Gypsy Rose — | 46 — the Hutt |
| 10 Fuzzier | 47 Pizza topping |
| 11 Reed instrument | 48 Phaser blasts |
| 12 Misfortunes | 49 Dairy-case buy |
| 13 Adroit | 50 Relatively free of obstructions |
| 21 Kooks | 51 Bake pottery |
| 22 Tobacco chew | 52 Fictional sub commander |
| 24 Greenish-blues | 53 Dow uptick |
| 25 Oater props | 54 Gumbo ingredient |
| 26 Bit of holly | 56 Past |
| 27 Abdul or Zahn | 57 Shellac resin |
| 28 Stripes | |
| 29 More ticked off | |
| 30 Trooper's aid | |

across»

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Hamper contents | 26 Undergo fission | 44 Succinct |
| 5 Bumpkin | 29 Tree climber | 45 They often clash |
| 10 Null and — | 33 Great care | 46 Soup du — |
| 14 Low voice | 34 Circular | 48 Speeds along |
| 15 Blue color | 35 Overwhelming feeling of wonder | 51 Castanet dance |
| 16 Equal to the task | 36 Pealed | 55 Puppy-chow brand |
| 17 Piercing | 37 Mystiques | 56 Excuse |
| 18 Inferior | 38 Project starter | 58 Veneer wood |
| 19 Hire a caddie | 39 Land in "la mer" | 59 Look searchingly |
| 20 Math power | 40 Grease jobs | 60 "Ninotchka" actress |
| 22 Medieval adventure | 41 Top players | 61 Sultan's cousin |
| 23 Impolite | 42 Utility gauge | 62 Walkman brand |
| 24 Feverish chill | (2 wds.) | 63 Vast expanse |
| | | 64 Lady of Spain |

previous answer



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	4	7	5		9			3
		1	6	4	3			
	5		2					
		2				9	7	6
1	3	6				8		
					8		5	
			4	3	2	7		
8			9		7	4	2	

instructions»

The digits 1 through 9 will appear exactly once in each row, each column, and each zone. (A zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine of these zones in the puzzle.) Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same 3x3 zone, or in the same row across the puzzle, or column down the puzzle.

solve time»

Under 13 minutes
13-17 minutes
17-21
21-25
More than 25

Genius
Scholar
Smart
Pretty good
Keep practising

previous answer

8	4	6	2	1	3	5	7	9
3	5	9	8	7	6	2	1	4
7	2	1	9	5	4	8	6	3
2	6	3	5	4	1	9	8	7
5	9	8	7	6	2	3	4	1
1	7	4	3	8	9	6	2	5
9	3	7	4	2	8	1	5	6
4	1	2	6	3	5	7	9	8
6	8	5	1	9	7	4	3	2

HOROSCOPE



ARIES | March 21-April 20

Mechanical problems cause a commotion. Spread the news about a relative's intentions. A meeting will create changes in policy.



TAURUS | April 21-May 21

Friendly behaviour causes wistful thoughts to arise. A co-worker's drama is comical. A man will show compassion.



GEMINI | May 22-June 21

Dreams of the future start to take shape. Work that you've been doing will begin to pay off. Help a parent with a dilemma.



CANCER | June 22-July 22

Someone wants to discuss "important matters". Lost documents will delay a deal. A painful romance is about to end.



LEO | July 23-Aug. 23

A peculiar tale won't be very satisfying. Be truthful if you're feeling forlorn. Don't pretend that all is well if it isn't.



VIRGO | Aug. 24-Sept. 22

Be careful with weird people. Someone picks up the pieces of a broken heart. Give up on unrealistic concepts of happiness.



LIBRA | Sep. 23-Oct. 23

You'll be sure of someone's secret feelings. Keeping a stiff upper lip puts your nerves on edge. A hermit looks to you for kindness.



SCORPIO | Oct. 24-Nov. 22

Somebody shows the depth of their perception. A mother issues an invitation. A crisis situation comes to a head.



SAGITTARIUS | Nov. 23-Dec. 21

Satisfaction comes in strange packages. The solution to a problem is in your room. A red-haired person won't bother to respond.



CAPRICORN | Dec. 22-Jan. 20

You'll cope well with a minor setback. Other people's property causes nightmares. There's no point repeating yourself.



AQUARIUS | Jan. 21-Feb. 18

An obsession continues to distract you. A seducer works well with a romantic. Remain firm in the face of silly revelations.



PISCES | Feb. 19-Mar. 20

Be playful with a friendly lover. Your finances will involve displeased strangers. An appointment is missed due to forgetfulness.

AVATAR VENUS

This Day IN HISTORY

June 26, 1284: According to legend, the Pied Piper lures 130 children of Hamelin away.

June 26, 1945: The United Nations Charter is signed in San Francisco.

June 26, 1870: The Christian holiday of Christmas is declared a federal holiday in the United States.

June 26, 1976: The CN Tower, the tallest free-standing structure on land in the world, was opened.

WIKIPEDIA.ORG

Halifax weather

Afternoon



Showers. 40%
24°

Tonight



Showers. 40%
15°

Friday



Variable. 17° / 11°

Saturday



Sunny. 14° / 8°

The Weather Network

Sunday



Showers. 40%
18° / 11°

Temperature Normals

High: 20°
Low: 11.1°

Records

High: 26.9°/2001
Low: 5.4°/1979

Sunrise: 5:30 a.m.
Sunset: 9:03 p.m.
Moonrise: 12:39 a.m.
Moonset: 1:42 p.m.

TWN incorporates MSC data



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2005 ECHO AUTO	\$11,988	\$115	2006 CIVIC LX 5-SPD	\$15,477	\$131
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